

## STATE OF DELAWARE OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

www.ohs.delaware.gov

## **Newsletter Article**

May 2012

## Click It or Ticket Boosting Seat Belt Use – Day and Night

Over the years, the *Click It or Ticket* seat belt enforcement mobilization has saved thousands of lives across the country with the help of law enforcement officers, highway safety officials and safety advocates. In fact, right here in Delaware, the percentage of people killed because they did not have their seat belt on has been cut in *half* since the *Click It or Ticket* campaign began. Yet far too many people still continue to take a chance that a crash won't happen to them, and choose not to buckle up.

Regardless of the vehicle you're in, not wearing a seat belt can result in tragedy if you are in a crash. Delaware statistics show that in 2011, <u>65</u> passenger vehicle occupants were killed in motor vehicle collisions, and an astounding 65% percent of them were <u>NOT</u> wearing seat belts when the wreck occurred. It's estimated that as many as 18 lives could have been saved if the individuals had just taken an extra few seconds to put on their seat belts.

Between the dates of May 14<sup>th</sup> – May 28th, **Delaware** motorists can expect to see an increase in police officers strongly enforcing seat belt laws around the clock, including at night when 2/3rds of unrestrained crashes in DE occur. You may encounter traffic safety checkpoints or see more officers on patrol. You will also likely hear radio and TV ads, and see billboards encouraging you to wear your seat belt.

Remember: Officers are making it a priority to save more lives by cracking down on seat belt law violators. Encourage your family and friends to always buckle up... you could save them the cost of a ticket, and quite possibly even their life. *Click It or Ticket*.

For more on the *Click It or Ticket* mobilization, please visit <u>www.ohs.delaware.gov</u>.

Click It or Ticket. Arrive Alive DE.

.